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Germany's Competitive Edge: The Sharpness Begins to Dull

By Brandon Mitchener International Herald Tribune FRANKFURT — When questioned about Germany's competitiveness, three-quarters of all Germans are convinced their country is a profitable place to make cars, half say it is a good place to smelt metals and a quarter swear it is ideal for biotechnology.

This dramatic gap between public perception and boardroom reality confirms a widespread suspicion that many Germans, preoccupied with Europe and unification, have fallen out of step with global trends. And unless the country's leadership takes note, observers warn, Standard Deutschland, or Germany's industrial competitiveness and attractiveness as a location for new investment, risks losing its luster.

"We are finding that the environment for German exports has changed dramatically over the last few years," said Axel Nitschke, an economist at the German Association of Chambers of Commerce, citing European integration and the opening of Eastern Europe. "But a lot of people have yet to realize it because they're too busy with Eastern Germany."

"We run the risk of clinging to the structures that were successful in the past instead of changing them to meet the demands of the future," he said. The most frequent laments of German industry are the country's high wages, high taxes and strong Deutsche mark. But experts say several deeper, harder-to-fix dangers lurk in See GERMANYS, Page 6

Yeltsin Seeks Deal to End Crisis With Hard-Liners

By Margaret Shapiro Washington Post Service MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin, weakened by a winter of bruising political battles, was moving Tuesday to make peace with some of his bitterest enemies, including the Communist Party, but also threatening extreme measures if his efforts at compromise fail.

Mr. Yeltsin's moves appeared part of a strategy to build some political momentum before an upcoming session of the Congress of People's Deputies during which his conservative opponents have made it clear that they will try to turn the presidency into a figurehead.



DISARMED — A U.S. soldier subduing a Somali who was carrying a hand grenade in the port of Kismayu. In Mogadishu, the U.S. envoy was wrapping up his mission. Page 3

Reining In China: It's U.S. vs. East Asia on How to Do It

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune SINGAPORE — As the Clinton administration considers how much pressure to exert on China, officials and policy planners in East Asia are figuring out ways of drawing the Chinese regime into a cooperative security network.

They also signal a readiness by Japan and virtually every other country, in an area of the world where sustained economic growth is strengthening regional cohesion, to take major diplomatic initiatives without necessarily having Washington's support.

The preparatory meeting in May may also prepare recommendations for expanding the ministerial-level security discussions to include China, Russia, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Asian officials said Tuesday that such a dialogue might eventually lead to formation of an Asian version of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which all nations with a stake in regional stability, including the United States, could take part.

See CHINA, Page 6 The United States denied China's hopes of early membership in GATT. Page 11

Besieged Town Appears to Fall to Serbs

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches BELGRADE — An American airstrip of supplies for starving Muslims, and peace negotiations at the United Nations, were again overshadowed by fighting Tuesday as the east Bosnian Muslim settlement of Cerska appeared to be falling to rebel Serbs.

But the U.S. defense secretary, Les Aspin, said that the airstrikes have allowed more land convoys to carry aid into the region and, as a result, they may be temporarily halted. Radar screens in the control tower at Belgrade airport showed the planes dropped their supplies over the Bratunac region of eastern Bosnia. Flying at 190 knots, they descended to 12,500 feet for the drop before climbing again to 17,000 feet and heading home to the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany.

The Itar-Tass news agency quoted Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozyrev as saying that President Boris N. Yeltsin had ordered a plan to be drawn up for airstrips of aid. Mr. Kozyrev was quoted as saying that it was "normal" that Russian aircraft should be allowed to use NATO airfields for their operations. There was no immediate comment from NATO headquarters in Brussels.



See BOSNIA, Page 6

Texas Cult Chief Offers to Surrender

WACO, Texas (Combined Dispatches) — The leader of an armed religious cult announced that he would surrender Tuesday with all of his followers to end a siege that has resulted in at least six deaths.

with all the people immediately," he said. "There's women, children and men involved. I am really concerned about the lives of my brethren here." The siege began Sunday when federal agents stormed the compound. Four agents were killed and 15 were wounded.

In Japan, Crime Stops Paying as the Recession Bites

By T. R. Reid Washington Post Service TOKYO — Japan's worst recession in 20 years is taking a toll on some of the most famous companies, prompting red ink or cutbacks at such industrial giants as Mitsubishi and Matsushita. Sony and Sumitomo. But that is nothing compared with what happened to a venerable Japanese outfit called the Izumi Group.

last year, according to the National Police Agency, the gang's victims — mainly local businesses squeezed by the recession — stopped paying. Facing reduced income on the one hand and increased police pressure on the other, mobsters began quitting left and right.

like it as it looks back on a series of mob crackdowns under the new Organized Crime Countermeasures Law, the first comprehensive anti-gang law in Japanese history, which took effect a year ago this week.

Errant Lawyer Explains His Misdemeanor: Those Business Trips Made Me Do It

By Alison Leigh Cowan New York Times Service NEW YORK — In a world where criminals have been known to blame their acts on everything from rock music to Twinkies, it was only a matter of time before someone accused of financial misconduct would come up with the ultimate white-collar defense — too much business travel.

Market indices table with columns for Dow Jones, Trib Index, The Dollar, and Pound. Values include 'Up 45.12' for Dow Jones and 'Up 1.10%' for Trib Index.

The ruse was a simple one. Kenneth I. Solomon confessed that on at least 154 occasions between 1982 and 1990 he submitted bogus expense reports that allowed him to bill Laventhol for roughly \$21,000.

The overbilling might never have come to light had Mr. Solomon not lost his bid to become Laventhol's chief executive in 1989. He chose early retirement and threatened to sue the firm when it refused to pay severance.

Mr. Solomon's novel defense scored a modest victory. The commission's hearing board recommended, 2 to 1, that Mr. Solomon be suspended from the practice of law, but only for one year. Prosecutors had sought a two-year suspension.

صكزامن الأصل

OPINION

Out of the Closet, Perhaps, But Not Yet Into the Media

By Richard Harwood

WASHINGTON — For most of America's history, homosexuals have been the invisible aliens in society, "closeted for self-protection and self-preservation, moving among us in many disguises. They are now "coming out," claiming their own identities, creating separatist cultures and institutions while also seeking acceptance and integration.

The media, after long years of silence, have begun to deal with the subject in ways that often are tentative, awkward and superficial. There has been a lot of crisis coverage centering on the AIDS epidemic. The political militancy of gay and lesbian organizations has caught attention, most recently regarding the role of homosexuals in the military. The Washington Post has published more than 1,000 stories on these and related subjects since 1987.

But it is still difficult to find in the mainstream press a coherent picture of gay and lesbian life in today's America. From opinion polls we know that there has been a steady erosion of public support for laws that discriminate against homosexuals. But public distaste for the idea of homosexuality remains as high as ever — at more than 80 percent — and may even be increasing slightly, according to a study by Benjamin Page at Northwestern University and Robert Shapiro at Columbia. A biblical passage condemns homosexuality as a sin. The American Psychiatric Association considered it a mental disease until 1973.

These attitudes affect the lives of millions, although we do not know how many millions. The folklore is that one in 10 American adults is homosexual. This number supposedly was derived from studies of human sexuality in the 1940s and 1950s at the Kinsey Institute in Bloomington, Indiana. Perhaps. But Dr. Kinsey estimated that only about 4 percent of men and 2 to 3 percent of women — primarily white, middle-class people — were "exclusively" homosexual. Even these numbers are suspect because of sampling distortions. A 1990 Kinsey Institute report puts the number of American homosexuals, children and adults, at 7.5 million.

million homosexual voters in last year's presidential election. He quoted the California gay leader David Mixner to the effect that gays provided 15 percent of Bill Clinton's vote and contributed millions to his campaign.

For a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the AIDS problem, media coverage of this large minority has focused directly or indirectly on its sexual orientation and behavior. The word "homosexual" reinforces that. So does the heavy sexual content of many gay publications, and so does evidence in the 1990 Kinsey Report that monogamy and long-lasting relationships are not characteristic of homosexuals.

But then they are becoming less characteristic of heterosexuals, too. The basketball legend Will Chamberlain, after all, claimed to have lain with 20,000 women.

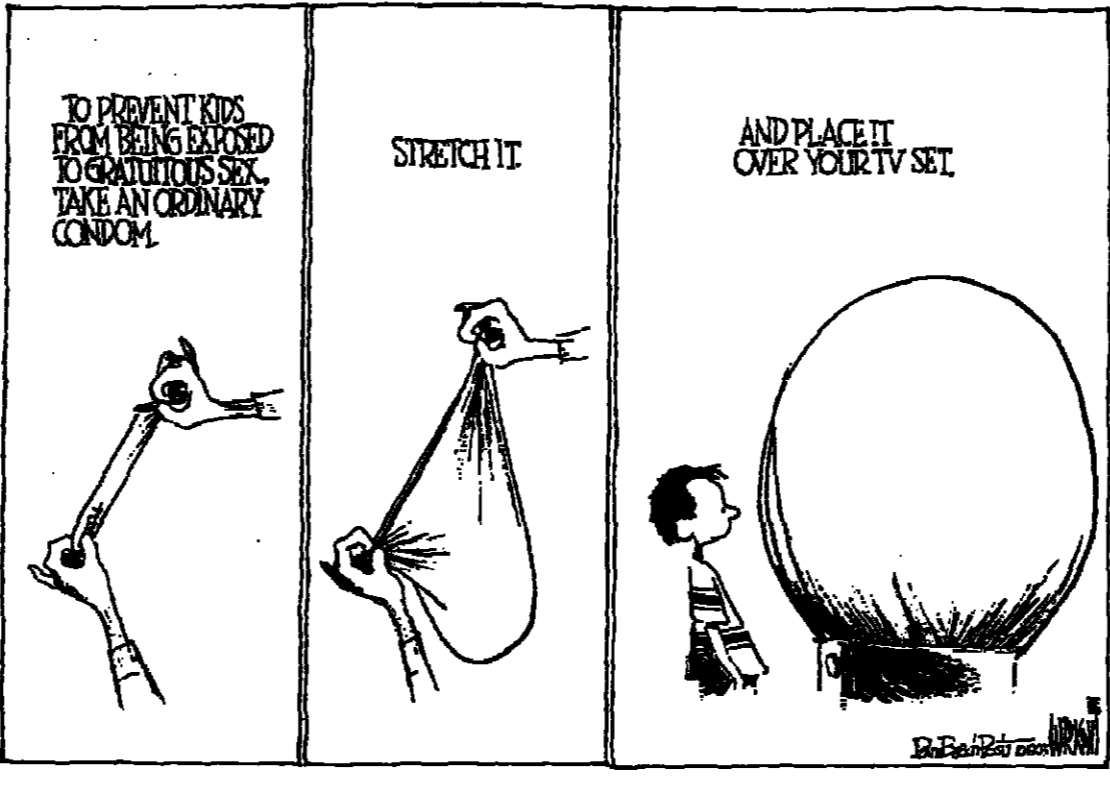
The fact that homosexuals are largely perceived as one-dimensional people results partly from indifference to the separatist or "parallel" culture they are creating. A few years ago I counted in the Washington Blade, a gay newspaper, notices and advertisements for 30 synagogues and churches with homosexual congregations. That number has doubled since then. There are dozens of special-interest organizations: college alumni groups, ethnic associations, bands, choral societies, athletic leagues and so on. Lawyers and doctors specialize in matters of particular interest to gays. Financial advisers, sensitive no doubt to the growing toll of AIDS, advertise extensively as experts on wills and estate management.

These institutional structures get little attention in the press, in part because many people in the media, myself included, feel uncomfortable dealing with this world apart. That may be one reason why most Americans define gays, far more than heterosexuals, in terms of sexual preference or practice.

John Balzar of the Los Angeles Times discussed this subject recently with Martin Duberman, a historian at the City University of New York who is also a founder of the school's Gay and Lesbian Studies Center. "We've come to believe, in our society," Mr. Duberman said, "that one's sexual identity is the heart of one's self. That's a very new concept." In ancient Greece, he added, "identity was founded on other matters — family, kinship, how well they performed their civic duties, how brave they were in battle."

We in the media tend to overlook these "other matters," and this contributes, I suspect, to many of the fears and suspicions that color our attitudes toward these "strangers" in our midst. But it is these other matters that define them not merely in terms of sexuality but as ordinary people who, in their humanity, are very much like the rest of us.

The Washington Post.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Politics and Morality

In his article "Miyazawa Deserves Better" (Opinion, Feb. 5), Gregory Clark urges the United States to invite promptly and warmly welcome Kiichi Miyazawa, whom he calls the "first genuinely internationalist, morally aware Japanese prime minister. Mr. Clark claims that Mr. Miyazawa rose to the top echelons of government after the Recruit scandal in 1989; in fact, he was forced to resign as finance minister because of his involvement in that incident.

Mr. Clark suggests that the former prime ministers Noboru Takeshita and Yasuhiro Nakasone used vast financial resources to hire Washington lobbyists to help them get preferential treatment from the U.S. government. He fails to mention that these two men were extremely well-versed in diplomacy and offered viable solutions to trade disputes. The Miyazawa administration has made no effort to reduce the surging trade surplus, a move that has surely irked more than a few officials on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Clark replies: No one should get too sentimental about politicians. But in the context of Japan a liberal intellectual such as Mr. Miyazawa belongs to a world quite different from that of the Takeshitas and Nakasones. The so-called Recruit scandal was a non-scandal invented by the media. In Japan at the time all companies issued shares at below market price. Most issued them via securities companies, which channeled them to politicians and gangsters. Recruit decided to issue them itself, and channeled them to politicians. The

Letters to the Editor

only politician to be prosecuted was Mr. Fujinami, a close aide of Mr. Nakasone's.

Facts and Figures

Regarding "Senate Votes to Bar HIV Immigrants" (Feb. 19): The article on a vote to prohibit the immigration of individuals infected with the virus that causes AIDS says, "The vote followed an emotional debate between Republicans who argued that the country could not afford to risk admitting AIDS victims and Democrats who said Americans should show no less compassion than other industrialized countries that already offer sanctuary to such immigrants."

Yet the opening paragraph says that "the Senate voted overwhelmingly" (my italics) to block the administration from lifting the ban. The vote was 76 to 23 with 34 Democrats against the president.

LAETITIA A. GUEST, Paris.

Homosexuals in Uniform

The question of allowing homosexuality in the military goes beyond tolerance, which the military already practices if you don't tattoo your preferences on your forehead, to forcing social acceptance of sodomy, which a great many people find repugnant. There is a difference between ensuring civil rights and making all behavior socially acceptable. But the reformers have driven a stake through the heart of debate with the words "alternative lifestyle," which is anything — whatever you want, or more to the point, whatever they want.

Demands that the U.S. military be an absolute reflection of American civil so-

Letters to the Editor

ciety are either a dogmatic folly or a breathtaking solution for achieving unilateral disarmament.

DENNIS F. MONTGOMERY, Boulbon, France.

Discouraged, With Cause

Regarding "Britain: Demoralized, Let Down by Mediocre Elites" (Opinion, Feb. 25) by William Pfaff: "Cuts to balance the budget" means closing schools, hospitals, coal mines, homes for problem children, day-care centers, public restrooms, adult education classes, and many grants to local self-help organizations.

The emir of Kuwait saves the London Zoo. The Japanese seem to be keeping the rest going. Cabinet ministers and the royalty are role models of sleazy let's-get-away-with-it lifestyles, while hundreds live in cardboard boxes. It's a cash-register society. Demoralized? You bet!

CHRISTINE FREMANTLE, London.

Order in the House

Regarding the editorial "Conversion on the Hill" (Feb. 18): While I agree with most of the editorial, I must take exception to the reference to "rational, orderly and unified debate" in the British Parliament. I guess the BBC doesn't reach New York!

If you could hear the meise that passes for debate in Parliament, you surely would reconsider the usage of the terms "rational" and "orderly." CHRIS WRIGHT, Paris.

The City's Finest Declined To Find My Pathfinder

By Lucy S. Danziger

NEW YORK — Here's the thing about crime: It pays. When our Nissan Pathfinder was stolen in December, I thought my husband and I had enough evidence to give the police a pretty solid lead. We were walking up to the car just as

Again I was asked if I was insured. "Yes," I answered. "Why are you so worried then?" "Because I'm about to bring a new car onto the street, and I want to catch the guys who took the last one before they get a chance at the new one."

MEANWHILE

it backed out of its parking space on East 79th Street and sped away.

We got a good look at the two men in the front seat, and then another thing happened. A black Lincoln (Massachusetts plates, two men in it) idling at the curb sped off after our car.

It had been the lookout, we learned from the doorman across the street, who had watched it circling the block for two hours. They had taken down the license number. When two police officers arrived, we were encouraged. They were bright and cooperative. We were impressed again when we learned the next day that they had interviewed the doorman and taken the Lincoln's number. That was the last sign that anyone was going to try to solve this case.

When our car phone bill showed up several weeks later, we learned that a call had been made two days after the theft. Each outgoing number is printed on the bill, so I called the 19th Precinct with the information. The officer said that the precinct wouldn't be following up.

"You're covered by insurance, right?" she asked, when I acted surprised. "Of course we're covered," I said, "but I thought this was a pretty good lead, and why not check it out?"

"We don't have time," came the honest answer, and the officer encouraged me to satisfy my curiosity by calling myself. When I did, the number had been changed. I called the new number and a woman yelled "Garage!" into the receiver. I asked her where she was located and she gave me a Bronx address.

Feeling like Girl Detective with a lead, I called the precinct, certain I could get some interest. "Why not send a squad car by? Check it out?"

My enthusiasm was not contagious. I asked to speak to a detective, who in a bored tone told me to report it to the complaint department. I told him I had and now I wanted someone to do something. I even threatened to drive to the police department's work?

He wasn't too concerned and told me to call the auto crime division. I repeated my story to the auto division and was told to report it to my precinct. This annoyed me.

Isn't it the auto crime division's job to catch car thieves? The 70 people who work there don't chase drug deals, they chase Pathfinders, right?

I later called back and discovered this was highly unlikely. The Auto Crime Division, I was told, tracks down tips about stolen car operations.

I explained that this is what I had been trying to give them: a lead. Still uninterested, they told me the precinct has its own detectives and I should give the information to them. I called the 19th Precinct one last time.

But I changed tactics and told the lieutenant I planned to write an article about the police department's lack of action. Suddenly he became cooperative and sympathetic. He couldn't reopen our case, which closed long ago for lack of leads, he said, but he would pass the information to the Auto Crime Division. Moments later a sergeant from the auto division called to say he would have someone drive by the garage.

When I called to follow up, no one would give me any information other than to say that the address of the garage had been "reported."

In other words, nothing had changed.

Last year, from January through September, 94,724 vehicles were stolen in New York City. That is about 126,000 cars a year, or 345 a day.

New York City leads the country in auto thefts, with 139,977 in 1991.

Despite the number of cases, or perhaps because of it, the police seem uninterested in the average theft. How much does crime pay? A popular foreign-made vehicle such as a Pathfinder is most often "chopped," or dismantled, and sold for parts.

When sold whole, the thieves give a new vehicle identification number over the old one, re-register it and sell it for market value, which is about \$30,000.

Sold as parts or whole in the Third World, the cars are supposed to be worth at least twice as much.

The National Insurance Crime Bureau estimates that car theft costs the industry \$8 billion a year.

Of each dollar a car owner spends on insurance, 10 cents goes to cover the costs of real and faked thefts. So when our next car gets stolen, the loss is built into the system. We should just wait 72 hours and, when it doesn't show up, go out and buy another one. Everyone tells me not to worry about it. I'm covered.

Ms. Danziger writes and consults for magazines. She contributed this comment to The New York Times.



Degussa on Growth Markets

A wise investment creates many happy returns.

The healthier your teeth, the happier you are. And thanks to advances in modern dentistry and contemporary dental lab technology, both young and old benefit from time spent at the dentist. Which is not only a healthy investment for patients but also for business.

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DOWN TO EARTH SOLUTIONS Degussa



'On the Piste' Hits the Skids

Gillian Tompkins, right, gets some coaching from her ski instructor, Peter Birch, as well as from her friends.

By Sheridan Morley International Herald Tribune

LONDON — If, in the recent history of British stage comedy, Alan Ayckbourn occupies the high ground, with Willy Russell closing in, then it is John Godber coming out on the outside.

LONDON THEATER

mentioned playwrights and Ray Cooney, offering a kind of social-consciousness farce which is always stronger in character than plot and seems often only very faintly removed from your average 30-minute television sitcom.

"On the Piste," at the Garrick is, as that punning title might suggest, about drinkers in the Alps: two couples set off on a packaged ski-tour of Austria, where they meet a golden-boy instructor and an upper-class wife whose husband has disappeared on business to Brussels.

television commercial voiceovers and sends his girlfriend 30th birthday cards reading "Thinking of you in your time of grief" and big, bitchy Dave (Ivan Kaye) who has reduced his girlfriend Bev (Gillian Tompkins) to a nervous wreck retreating ever further into the plaster of her injuries; and then there's the instructor Tony (Peter Birch) who has seen them all before and can't wait to get back to his tennis coaching when the snow melts.

But having introduced us to all of them, Godber's invention flags badly, and by halfway through Act II we are into a really terrible Abba parody dream-sequences, so desperate is he for anywhere to take an aimless selection of scenes from skiing life. Oddly trapped in a gully between knock-about farce and social observation of the British abroad, "On the Piste" ends up by falling off it altogether.

It has taken 12 years for Joseph Pinter's "The Snow Orchid" to reach London from Off Broadway, and you can see why: not so much well-written as well-remembered from other and better plays, this is a very curious hot-house plant indeed. Somewhere in Brooklyn lives a Sicilian-American family in dysfunction. Mother is Filomena (Paula Dionysotto), forever denouncing her sons and longing for the sun of Sicily.

returned from a mental asylum in which he appears to have been incarcerated for a decade or so as punishment for having tried to kill himself by running under trucks in the Holland Tunnel. Rocco is somewhere out of Willy Loman by way of the father in "All My Sons," and his two sons are no less familiar. There's the tortured gay one from "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," and the other one who just wants big mama to get over her agoraphobia and start doing some decent shopping instead of having to have the bread delivered through the windows.

ALL in all, "Snow Orchid" looks like it emerged from one of those seminars they have at American university summer schools where would-be playwrights sit around complaining about each other's work and where is the next Tennessee Williams to be found? Not here, alas, though Tina Lane's production for the London Gay Theatre at the Gate in Notting Hill is wonderfully fluid, with strong performances not only from Dionysotto but also Roger Lloyd Pack as her craggy, dour husband, and Adam Magnani and Jude Law as the sons.

Meanwhile, back in Wyckwood-under-Ashe, a canary has been mysteriously strangled and several of the villagers are now also somewhat dead. Indeed, Act I

opens at a funeral and closes with yet another murder, though this one only of a chauffeur so it probably doesn't count. We are of course in Christie country, that never-neverland of snobbery with violence where mad aristocrats still shout "You'll pay for this, Rivers," and gay artists are described as nancy-boys and expected to come to terrible ends.

The truth about Dame Agatha is of course that she was a truly terrible dramatist, most of whose stage work was always adapted by others; the exception is "The Mousetrap," which started out as a 30-minute radio play and graduated to being a 30-year tourist phenomenon without ever passing through the stage of being an adequate night in the theater. Now, Clive Exton has disintegrated "Murder Is Easy" (at the Duke of York's) from a 1930s novel, bringing it back not so much to life as a kind of living death through which a dozen actors move as if underwater.

Nigel Davenport as the loopy press tycoon has the fixed stare of one who has read the rest of the script ahead of the others, while Charlotte Attewborough and Peter Capaldi trip lightly among the corpses and the rest of the cast hide upstage, as if understandably terrified of being recognized by anyone who might subsequently want to give them a job. We are asked not to reveal whodunit, but as usual Dame Agatha chunt and just as appallingly as ever.

In U.S., Polish Orchestra Seeks a Financial Cure

By John Rockwell New York Times Service

KRAKOW, Poland — Like so many other Eastern European cultural institutions, the Krakow Philharmonic, touring North America until March 3, finds itself in an awkward, sometimes painful transition.

The American journey, its first since the fall of communism, has come at a crucial time for the orchestra, and its sponsors hope that box-office income as well as charitable contributions inspired by its presence will alleviate some of its more pressing problems.

Players welcome the chance to make fresh contact with the outside.

The musicians' wages, like those of all Polish orchestras and formerly state-supported educated professions, are well below the national average, which is itself grievously below Western standards in an economy crippled by a half-century of communism and today's soaring inflation. In addition, the Krakow Philharmonic's concert hall was burned to its outer walls in December 1991, destroying its beloved pipe organ (a melted mass of metal, on display in the lobby, which makes a handsome if eerie sculptural statement) and its library of scores.

Now the Krakow Philharmonic is among the country's best orchestras. It has also been particularly open to outsiders, with Gilbert Levine, a New Yorker, as the principal conductor and de facto music director from 1987 to 1991 (under the composer Krzysztof Penderecki, who led the orchestra's last American tour seven years ago), and Jean Paul Penin, a Frenchman, the latest principal conductor. Jerzy Maksymiuk, a Pole, will become principal conductor in the fall, but Levine is leading the orchestra on the American tour.

At a free open rehearsal of the tour program in the orchestra's 1,000-seat Philharmonic Hall, the orchestra made a typically warm, relaxed central European sound. This proved especially effective in Henryk Górecki's "Three Pieces in Olden Style" for string orchestra; the suddenly popular composer, whose Nonesuch recording of his Third Symphony has proved such a hit in the United States and Britain, lives in neighboring Katowice.

The only sign of strain came as Levine pushed his strings for tonal brilliance and accurate, energetic ensemble in the final movement of the Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 3 ("Polish"). Levine attributes the problems primarily to the players' "cigar-box" instruments (he says the brass is somewhat better), rather than to any failings of technique. But he also says his tenure in Krakow was characterized by a sometimes abrasive, sometimes productive tension between the orchestra's relaxed tradition and his more aggressive, Juilliard-trained instincts.

By all accounts, Levine, who was more or less forced upon the orchestra by the then all-powerful Penderecki, had to work hard to win the musicians' trust. That was partly a matter of his being Jewish in what is now an almost entirely Catholic land. (The Nazis and to a lesser extent the Soviets reduced the once thriving Krakow Jewish community to around 200.) Levine, whose family came to the United States

from Poland a century ago and whose mother-in-law survived Auschwitz, hardly soft-pedaled his Jewishness. He even led concerts in the unused main Temple Synagogue. But he also built bridges to the Catholics, playing at the Vatican for Pope John Paul II, the former Archbishop of Krakow.

Most of the players seem to have been won over. "He was the first foreigner here, and he was in some ways imposed by Penderecki," said Maria Osterwa-Czekaj of OTV Krakow, the television station. "But now they love him. The ceremony of his farewell in 1991 was so touching: almost everybody cried."

Perhaps not everybody. There are some musicians who reportedly still resist his hard-driving style and mutter that Levine left under duress in 1991, "kicked out" by the orchestra. Levine insists that he was the one to quit, and for strictly financial reasons: in an economy where the musicians are paid a base salary of less than \$150 a month, 40 percent less than the national average, he says he simply could no longer afford to spend more than a third of the year in Krakow.

Formerly coddled by the culture-proud Communists, musicians must now teach or otherwise supplement their incomes to survive, and some have left for Germany or Switzerland for Western salaries. So far the orchestra's management, appointed by the provincial government, has had no luck attracting corporate sponsors. Penin, too, says his salary is extremely low but adds that he can sustain himself with other engagements and that his Krakow fee is augmented by the French government. In his new position as "conductor laureate-honored guest conductor," Levine will spend about six weeks a year with the orchestra.

The American tour, organized by Levine, is being sponsored by the Polish National Alliance and the Polish American Congress, and hence is playing in cities with especially large Polish-American populations. The orchestra is being accompanied by Tadeusz Piekarczyk, the governor of Krakow Province, which has taken over support and control of the orchestra from the old Communist Ministry of Culture in Warsaw.

The fire that gutted Philharmonic Hall was said by some to have been electrical in origin but was thought by others to have been arson by disgruntled Communists. (Every event in Eastern Europe seems to inspire a conspiracy theory.) There is also some disagreement about whether a debt exists for the reconstruction of the hall. But all agree that the pipe organ (at a cost of \$1 million) and music library must be replaced. The tour sponsors hope to earn a profit by keeping expenses low (a \$35 per diem, grossly high by Polish standards, and intercity travel by bus).

The Krakow Philharmonic was, like so many Eastern bloc artistic institutions, artificially preserved in its 19th-century bourgeois traditions by the political and economic isolation of communism. The members of this youngish orchestra, in which half the string players are women, still derives almost entirely from Krakow. But the inescapable process of internationalization is well under way, and despite some nostalgic regrets by Westerners at that loss of innocence, the players welcome the chance to make fresh contact with the outside.

"We've opened up by working with foreigners and by constantly bringing young people into the orchestra," said Czeslaw Pilawski, a violinist and the personnel manager.

Carly Simon's Opera: A Bad Try

By Edward Rothstein New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Only a great anxiety over the future of the operatic tradition could account for such a peculiar, well-meaning and misguided failure like Carly Simon's new opera, "Romulus Hunt."

This work, just over an hour in length, is meant to be a "family opera," able to attract children and new audiences to the art form that, along with the rest of the art-music tradition, has no role in contemporary public education.

So the Metropolitan Opera Guild decided to commission and produce the work with the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (which will present it in April), and is scheduling performances for school classes as well as for the general public. Its New York run will continue through March 7 at the John Jay Theatre.

The opera is a prototype for the Met Guild's New Opera for New York project, which has also approached the pop singer Elvis Costello for a similar undertaking. Carly Simon was chosen, in part, because she would be familiar to baby-boomer parents, who would be drawn to attend with their progeny.

Unfortunately, the work ended up seeming to be a symptom of the very problem it was meant to solve. Simon, who is best known through her hits "You're So Vain" and "Anticipation," has acknowledged her own scant training in musical notation and tradition.

So, as is sometimes the case with Broadway scores, help was sup-

plied in orchestration and arranging. The music, directed from the pit by Jeff Halpern, sounded like what it was, hesitant forays into operatic declamation mixed with more accomplished pop melodies and hints of reggae and rock.

Scored for 10 instruments, including rock percussion, it strained at being taken seriously.

But the emotional pallor of the libretto never justified the use of dramatic music; the work even lacked the forthright ambition to entertain that marks the classic Broadway musical. There seemed to be no reason for this being an opera other than the commission itself.

The libretto, written by Simon with Jacob Brackman, was helplessly structured: a 12-year-old New Yorker, Romulus Hunt (sung by Andrew Harrison Leeds), tries to trick his divorced, ill-matched parents into coming back together.

His sidekick, strangely enough, is an imaginary Rastafarian named Zoogy who knows enough Jamaican magic to help with the plot (and is energetically sung by Jeff Hairston).

Eddie, Rom's father (Greer Grimsley), is an artsy type who pierces his son's nose, while his prim mother, Joanna (given the most impressive performance, by Loretta Bybee), worries more about propriety.

Bybee also has the work's only operatic moment as she sings about Eddie with something resembling Puccinian passion. A triangle is created by Mica, Eddie's girlfriend, a ditsy performance artist (Wendy Hill). During the show's final minutes, an instant Arthur Milleresque drama is enacted in which Eddie learns to love Rom by recalling his own father's indifference.

Unless standards are significantly raised, this will remain a project to relieve adult anxiety. Children would do better with "Die Zauberflöte" and "Siegfried."

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Diagram showing Sprint Express calling cards for various international destinations like Norway, Netherlands, Portugal, St. Lucia, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, U.S. Virgin Islands, etc., each with a corresponding access number.

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Table of international access numbers for various countries including Argentina, Australia, Austria, etc., with Sprint logo at the bottom.

U.S. Orchestra To Play Europe

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Symphony under its music director, Herbert Blomstedt, will play 10 concerts in eight cities this month on its first European tour since 1990.

Advertisements for various restaurants including HAEJIE CLAES, THOUWERCK, LE TOIT DE PARIS, L'ARBUCI, DA MEO PATACCA, and KERVANSARAY.

AMEX Tuesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High Low Stock	Div	Yld	PE	52	High	Low	Change
7% AMGEN	2.40	4.4	16	95	54 1/4	52 3/4	+ 1/4
12% AMGEN	2.40	4.4	16	95	54 1/4	52 3/4	+ 1/4
12% AMGEN	2.40	4.4	16	95	54 1/4	52 3/4	+ 1/4
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12% AMGEN	2.40	4.4	16	95	54 1/4	52 3/4	+ 1/4
12% AMGEN	2.40	4.4	16	95	54 1/4	52 3/4	+ 1/4

Notes: Prices are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks ending the current week, but not the trading day. Where a split or stock dividend occurred in 1992 or 1993, the year's high-low range and dividend are shown for the most recent split. (Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual dividends based on the current dividend rate.)

Dividend data: Div - dividend; Yld - yield; PE - price-earnings ratio; 52 - 52-week high/low range; High - 52-week high; Low - 52-week low; Change - daily change.

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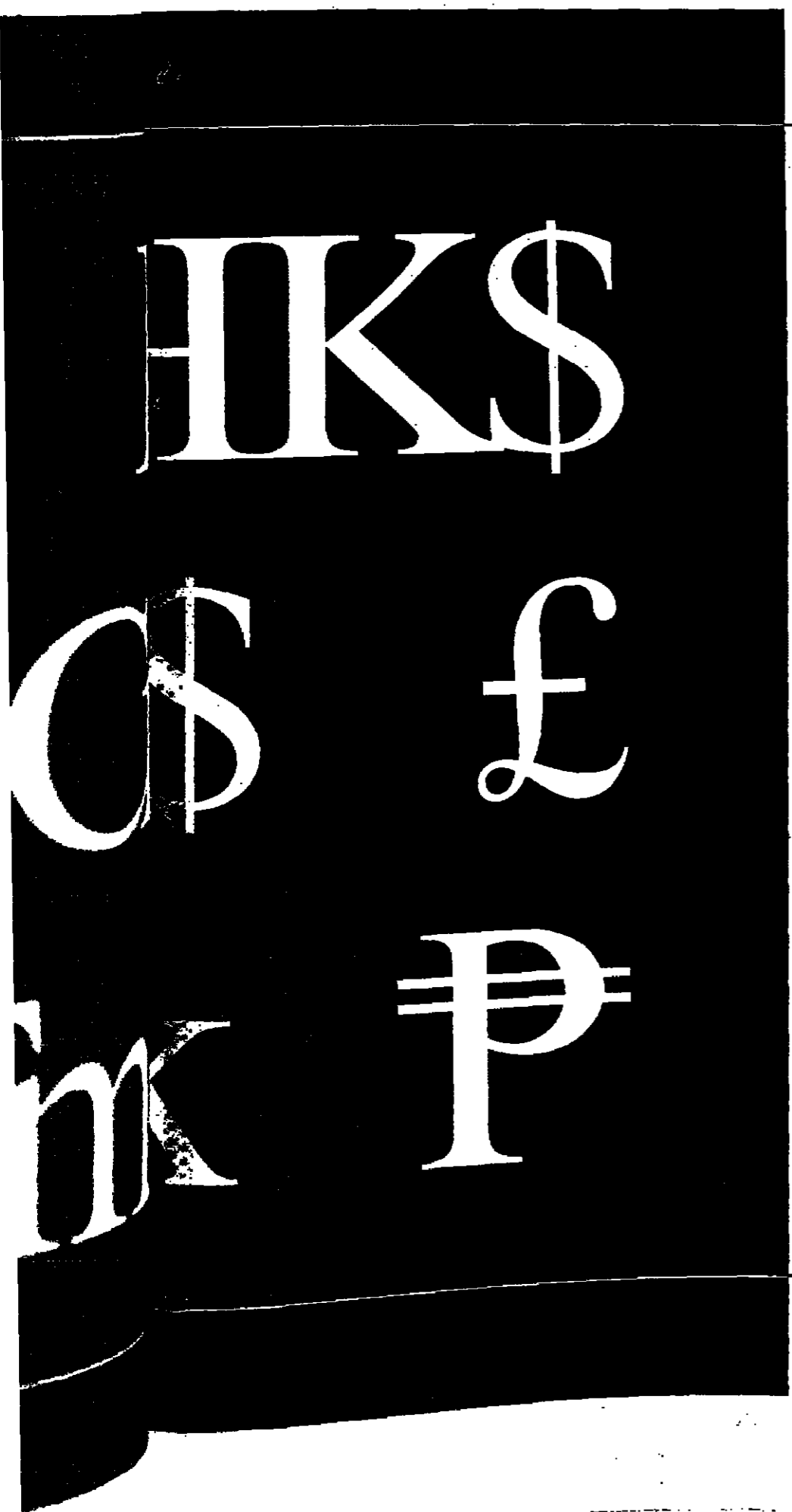
سوق الأسهم

NASDAQ

Tuesday's Prices
 NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	20 Day Avg	High	Low	Volume	Open	Close
100.00	98.50	IBM	4.00	4.00	15.00	100.00	98.50	98.50	100.00	100.00	98.50
50.00	48.00	Microsoft	0.00	0.00	20.00	50.00	48.00	48.00	50.00	50.00	48.00
20.00	19.00	Oracle	0.00	0.00	15.00	20.00	19.00	19.00	20.00	20.00	19.00
10.00	9.50	Amazon	0.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	9.50	9.50	10.00	10.00	9.50
5.00	4.80	Yahoo	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	4.80	4.80	5.00	5.00	4.80

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	20 Day Avg	High	Low	Volume	Open	Close
10.00	9.50	Apple	0.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	9.50	9.50	10.00	10.00	9.50
8.00	7.80	Cisco	0.00	0.00	8.00	8.00	7.80	7.80	8.00	8.00	7.80
6.00	5.80	Sun	0.00	0.00	6.00	6.00	5.80	5.80	6.00	6.00	5.80
4.00	3.80	Novell	0.00	0.00	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.80	4.00	4.00	3.80
3.00	2.80	Lotus	0.00	0.00	3.00	3.00	2.80	2.80	3.00	3.00	2.80



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NYSE

Tuesday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Dr	Yld	P/E	1992 High	Low	1993 High	Low
100.00	98.00	IBM		7.5	15	100.00	98.00	100.00	98.00
120.00	118.00	Microsoft		10.0	12	120.00	118.00	120.00	118.00
50.00	48.00	Intel		8.0	18	50.00	48.00	50.00	48.00
30.00	28.00	Oracle		12.0	10	30.00	28.00	30.00	28.00
15.00	14.00	Novartis		6.0	20	15.00	14.00	15.00	14.00
10.00	9.50	Amgen		5.0	25	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.50
8.00	7.50	Boehringer		4.0	30	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.50
6.00	5.50	Glaxo		3.0	35	6.00	5.50	6.00	5.50
4.00	3.50	Schering		2.0	40	4.00	3.50	4.00	3.50
2.00	1.80	Merck		1.0	45	2.00	1.80	2.00	1.80
1.00	0.90	Bayer		0.5	50	1.00	0.90	1.00	0.90

González Says Easy Money Isn't the Way to End Slump

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
MADRID—Spain will not be tempted into expansive policies to fight its growing recession and will stick to its strategy of economic convergence in Europe, Prime Minister Felipe González said on Tuesday.
 "Experience has shown that measures that go against the economic cycle in other countries are condemned to failure," he said in a debate in Congress on the economy.
 Mr. González was appearing to explain a four-point package of measures announced on Friday that aim to counter a deepening recession and soaring unemployment, running at 20 percent.
 The package includes an extra 200 billion pesetas (\$1.7 billion) in 1993-94 spending, as well as labor market reforms, but Mr. González said the funds would come in the form of loans from the European Investment Bank.
 The prime minister said the project outlines investments of 165 billion pesetas in 1993 and 185 billion pesetas in 1994, on highways, railroads, ports, airports and the environment.
 Of the total investment, 70 percent would go toward infrastructure and 30 percent would be spent on the environment, Mr. González said.
 The package also includes tax breaks, soft loans and other financial measures aimed at

assisting small and medium-sized companies, and encouraging the creation of new firms.
 But leader of the opposition center-right Popular Party, José María Aznar, said the government's economic package fell far short of what was needed and repeated his call for early elections.
 "The new measures are like trying to cure cancer with an aspirin," he said.
 Mr. González said the government would not adopt any policy combining increasing the public deficit with lower interest rates.
 "Widening the deficit and lowering interest rates are incompatible. A bigger deficit only increases the cost of money and the inflation rate, while losing competitiveness," he said.
 Mr. González rejected growing calls for a change in economic policy, especially cutting interest rates and weakening the peseta, unless rate cuts were in coordination with other EC countries and inflation came down.
 He said the new economic package was intended to stimulate jobs without renouncing the goals of its economic convergence plan of cutting inflation, a stable peseta and sustained growth.
 Growth is seen slumping to zero or below this year from just under 1 percent in 1992.
 (Reuters, AP)

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Dr	Yld	P/E	1992 High	Low	1993 High	Low
10.00	9.50	Amgen		5.0	25	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.50
8.00	7.50	Boehringer		4.0	30	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.50
6.00	5.50	Glaxo		3.0	35	6.00	5.50	6.00	5.50
4.00	3.50	Schering		2.0	40	4.00	3.50	4.00	3.50
2.00	1.80	Merck		1.0	45	2.00	1.80	2.00	1.80
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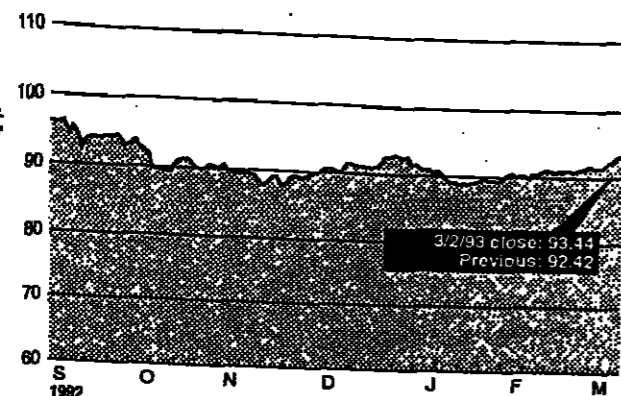
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1.00	0.90	Bayer		0.5	50	1.00	0.90	1.00	0.90

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THE TRIB INDEX: 93.44



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Australia...

Table with 3 columns: Asia/Pacific, Europe, N. America. Includes sub-tables for Industrial Sectors.

For readers desiring more information about the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index...

RJR Plans Shift With New Stock For Food Business

NEW YORK — Apparently pressured by an impatient Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co. to boost its stock price...

Other companies have created separate classes of stock for their businesses without giving up control over those assets...

Finally, RJR plans a 1-for-3 reverse split of Reynolds Group stock, leaving 378 million shares outstanding.

U.S. Dashes China's GATT Hopes

BEIJING — The United States on Tuesday dashed China's hopes of early membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade...

Such a safeguard clause would allow other countries to use quotas and tariffs to protect themselves against any flood of low-priced Chinese exports.

'We have got to have some restrictions on what they can do in other countries' markets.'

Douglas Newkirk, U.S. negotiator

allowing full transparency in the trade system so that all regulations, quotas and licensing requirements are made public...

Dunkel Sees Clinton Aiding GATT

Bundesbank Says Bonn Has Key to Rates

COLOGNE, Germany — Bundesbank vice-president Hans Tietmeyer on Tuesday urged the German government to put its house in order by implementing convincing financial policies.

through convincing decisions on finance, social and wages policy.

'Convincing decisions on finance, social and wages policy' are needed for lower German rates, Tietmeyer says.

could lay claim to a standard of living equal to that of Western Germany's poorer regions in the early 1980s.

Edzard Reuter, chairman of Daimler-Benz AG, said German industry was belatedly awakening from "benign neglect" over the last several years.

MEDIA MARKETS

The Economist Searches For a First Among Equals

By Suzanne Cassidy
LONDON — When, in a week or so, the name of the next editor of The Economist is announced...

After DAF, It's Safety Driving Dutch Market

By Jon Henley
AMSTERDAM — Disappointed by two icons of Dutch industry, DAF and Fokker, Amsterdam investors are piling into blue-chip food and drink stocks...

OUR PHILOSOPHY OF BANKING GOES BACK 4,000 YEARS.



It was the ancient traders who first established many of today's banking practices. They accepted funds. Bartered goods for services. And extended credit. It was a business based on trust...

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Table with columns for Cross Rates, Eurocurrency Deposits, Key Money Rates, and Forward Rates. Includes various currency pairs and interest rates.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Table with columns for Eurocurrency Deposits, Key Money Rates, and Forward Rates. Includes various currency pairs and interest rates.

Mercedes Lifts Daimler Stock

By Ferdinand Protzman

New York Times Service
Mercedes-Benz AG's current weak corporate health would hardly seem the stuff of which rising share prices are made.

number of positive factors have emerged at the Mercedes-Benz division, which accounts for two-thirds of total sales.

To reduce costs and improve efficiency, Mercedes cut 12,500 jobs, realigned management and streamlined its manufacturing.

But the real excitement stems from Mr. Werner's announcement in January that Mercedes was beginning a "strategic reorientation" that might have it producing a full range of cars rather than just expensive models.

Reacting to tough times, the carmaker is pushing through big changes.

Mercedes is struggling through one of its most difficult periods. Recession and fierce competition have undermined sales and production.

The 1993 outlook is poor, with analysts saying the German car market will shrink 20 percent. "But because it is so bad," said Hubert Verbeke, analyst at West Capital in Düsseldorf, "Mercedes has been able to push through some really tough cost-cutting measures."

There is also a new model poised to enter showrooms later this year. In early February, Mercedes introduced its new bottom-of-the-line C-class sedan. It will replace the 190 model, which came out in the early 1980s and became a best seller, nicknamed the Baby Benz.

"This car represents a significant change for Mercedes," said Louisa Lubliner, auto analyst at Trinkaus & Berkhart, a private bank in Düsseldorf. He said he was "neutral to positive" on Daimler shares.

The C class combines the classic Mercedes look with a more aerodynamically sleek silhouette. It may initially depress the carmaker's sales, by making the outgoing 190s tough to sell. But if the global auto market rebounds in 1994, industry analysts expect sales to take off.

EC Increases Pressure in Steel Dispute

By Reuters

BRUSSELS — The EC Commission on Tuesday stepped up the pressure in its steel trade dispute with the United States by taking new action under GATT and adding a new touch of urgency to its language.

The European Community's trade policy commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan, said U.S. curbs on steel imports "send the wrong political signal at a time when the world needs reassurance of America's intention to stand by its commitments on free global trade."

The commission announced that the Community had formally requested talks with the United States under GATT rules over new U.S. antidumping duties on steel from seven EC states.

Sir Leon said the Community was urgently consulting Washington to verify whether rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade had been respected both in terms of the procedures involved and the substance of the complaints.

EC officials accused the United States of systematically taking a hard line in the antidumping and subsidy inquiries against exporters of steel worth \$1 billion a year in seven EC countries.

European Airlines Welcome an Upturn

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BRUSSELS — European airlines are at last seeing their fortunes picking up, with their overall traffic growing 10 percent in January compared with January 1991, the Association of European Airlines said Tuesday.

Member airlines "started the year on a fairly buoyant note with good traffic growth in most regions," the Brussels-based organization of 24 scheduled airlines said, adding, "This represents an ongoing trend of recovery toward reasonable levels."

The largest increase occurred on flights to and from the Far East and Australia, which was 15 percent, while the smallest increase was on North Atlantic routes, which nevertheless was 6 percent.

The association used 1991 as the basis for comparison, saying traffic was distorted in 1992 because many people decided not to fly in the aftermath of the Gulf War.

The improving trend for European airlines was underscored by Sabena's announcement that it had bounced back into the black, thanks to its link with Air France.

Chairman Pierre Godfroid said the airline had saved 500 million francs in management costs because of its tie-up with Air France, which took a 37.5 percent stake in Sabena last year.

"Without this partnership we could not have realized these results," Mr. Godfroid said.

In Helsinki, however, a sign of pressure in the industry came as Finnair announced plans to lay off 1,000 workers as part of a restructuring aimed at saving more than 100 million markkaa (\$17 million).

The state-owned airline intends to merge some operations and sell assets, including some hotels, President Antti Poitila said.

In Bergen, Norway, meanwhile, the chairman of Scandinavian Airlines System said he did not expect that talks cooperation with Swissair, Austrian Airlines and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines would lead to a merger.

"The discussions are aimed at establishing whether there is a basis for negotiations on closer cooperation, and I do not think that cooperation will result in a merger," said Harald Norvik, the SAS board chairman. (Reuters, AP)

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt DAX London FTSE 100 Index Paris CAC 40

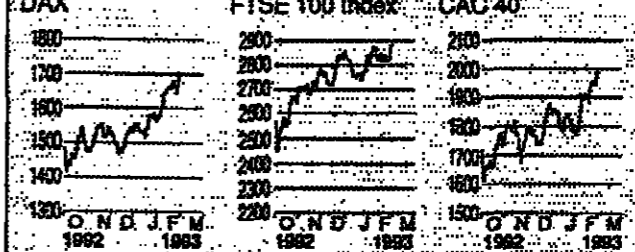


Table with columns: Exchange, Index, Tuesday Close, Friday Close, Change. Rows include Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, Helsinki, London, Madrid, Milan, Paris, Stockholm, Vienna, Zurich.

Very briefly:

- Banco Central Hispanoamericano SA, Spain's biggest privately owned bank, will buy a 10 percent stake in Banco Comercial Portugues for 17.8 billion pesetas (\$150.5 million)...

U.S. Firms Form Cable and Phone Venture in U.K.

By Reuters

LONDON — Southwestern Bell Corp. and Cox Cable said Tuesday that they had signed a memorandum of understanding to create a partnership in cable television and telephones in Britain.

The companies said Cox would hold an initial 25 percent in the British franchise cable TV and telephone operations currently owned by Southwestern Bell, with options to increase its stake. Barry Elson, senior vice president of operations for Cox, declined to comment on newspaper reports that the deal could be worth more than \$300 million.

Cox is a media company that runs newspapers, TV stations and cable TV operations in the United States. Southwestern Bell owns and operates cable TV and telephone businesses in the Midlands and northwest of England.

In Mozambique's Press, A Little Revolution

By Reuters

MAPUTO, Mozambique — In the former servants' quarters of a colonial-era house near the Indian Ocean waterfront, some of Mozambique's leading journalists conspire each night over a computer screen. From this cramped command post they have revealed inside details of the negotiations that ended Mozambique's civil war. They have embarrased government ministers that failed to pay their electric bills and told drought-stricken Mozambicans about shiploads of foreign food aid rotting in port warehouses because of a bureaucratic tangle at Customs.

The journalists' daily three-page bulletin, called Mediã, is sent out by facsimile machine, reaching just 360 paid subscribers. By African standards, this is boutique journalism. By African standards, it is a little revolution — the vanguard perhaps of a free press, and of financially independent news organizations, however small they might be.

The cooperative raised \$200,000 in donations from Dutch and Nordic sponsors, and sent out its first issue last May. Subscriptions fell for \$600 a year, more than the average annual income of a Mozambican.

By paying only subsistence salaries, the cooperative has squandered away the seed money to begin a newspaper, a 32-page weekly tabloid to be called Savana.

EDITOR: An In-House Tradition

(Continued from first finance page)

ington bureau chief, Mike Elliott; the economics editor, Clive Crook, and former America editor, Matt Ridley.

All of these five except Mr. Elliott are alumni of Magdalen College at Oxford. Staff members say this is partly a result of the efforts of R.W. Johnson, a Magdalen don who, in the late 1970s, went out of his way to bring promising students to the attention of Andrew Knight, then The Economist's editor.

The person who gets the job will take over a publication that is in remarkably good health. Despite the recession, The Economist's pre-tax profit has grown in the last few years, to £10.4 million (\$15 million) in the year ended in March 1992 from £5.6 million in the year ended in March 1988.

Circulation has risen steadily. In the five years before Mr. Tennant-Rea took over, it had grown 45 percent worldwide and had doubled in North America. Since then, global circulation has increased an additional 72 percent,

DUTCH: Seeking Safety

(Continued from first finance page)

disappointed. That is partly because the flight to quality is being driven largely by professional investors who are required to keep a certain proportion of their portfolios in equities.

With Dutch guilders currently promising relatively secure gains because of the strength of the currency, these professionals "are being forced to buy defensively," said Joost van Beek, a share analyst at the investment bank Pierson, Heijding & Pierson. "But they may be let down by earnings that fail to come up to expectations," he said.

Mr. Van den Berg added, "The way the market is right now, it would take only a minor disappointment from one of the defensives to send its share price tumbling."

Heinie Hakker, an analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, predicted that Heineken would report Thursday that its 1992 earnings per share grew just over 10 percent, to 11.40 guilders.

Where The Economist has failed to shine, some feel, is on its home territory. Average circulation in Britain and Ireland for the period January to June 1992 stood at less than 101,000, an increase of more than 15,000 from the same period in 1986. This was a gain, certainly, but hardly one keeping pace with those abroad.

Andrew Neil, editor of The Sunday Times of London and once The Economist's Britain editor, is among those who say that the magazine has lost its domestic impact. These critics point to its enthusiastic support for Britain's entry into the European Community's exchange-rate mechanism — an experiment that ended ignominiously in September — as evidence that the magazine has lost touch with its home base.

"That is the price of being an international success story," Mr. Neil said. "Its coverage of domestic issues is 'very poor now.' He thinks that 'The Economist risks' compounding its mistakes in Britain by choosing 'some unknown' as its next editor."

NYSE

Tables include the nationwide price up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

NYSE High-Low Stock table with columns: 12 Month High, 12 Month Low, Div, Yld, P/E, High, Low, Last, Change.

NYSE High-Lows table with columns: NYSE High-Lows, NEW HIGHS 137, NEW LOWS 137.

AMEX High-Lows table with columns: AMEX High-Lows, NEW HIGHS 32, NEW LOWS 7.

COMPANY RESULTS

Table of company financial results for various countries including Netherlands, Australia, Britain, Finland, Japan, etc.

The Bosnian airdrop Terrorism in New York Mobs in Mogadishu Continued trade conflicts Religious strife in India. Includes subscription information and contact details for the International Herald Tribune.

Taisho Starts Peddling Its Potent Pick-Me-Ups In Foreign Markets

TOKYO — A runaway speedboat is careening toward a pile of rocks. Suddenly, two Japanese hunkers on jet ski rockets to the rescue. One hurls himself into the boat and regains control. Calamity averted, the two crack open a couple of Lipovitan-D energy drinks. This heroic television ad comes courtesy of Taisho Pharmaceutical Co., whose health tonics enjoy 64 percent of Japan's lucrative energy-drink market. This year Japanese consumers, looking for a little extra oomph, will down \$2 billion yen (\$700 million) worth of the stuff. Although Taisho makes a variety of over-the-counter drugs, more than 50 percent of its earnings come from energy drinks. These three-ounce (2.9-centiliter) drinks with their mix of caffeine, vitamins and a nicotine derivative have been an essential part of the Japanese salaryman's diet for decades. But with Japan's economic slowdown, the domestic market for energy drinks is showing signs of fatigue. So Taisho is shifting gears and now hopes to market its high-octane drinks abroad. The biggest target is Southeast Asia. "The emerging Asian economies will produce more high-powered businessmen who need energy drinks," said Takashi Shibata, a spokesman with Taisho. The company recently set up production facilities in Taiwan and Malaysia. Taisho also wants to win a following in the West. Last year, it opened a factory in Spain to make Lipovitan. It has also started rolling out the drink line in the United States on a test-market basis. During last decade's economic boom, Japanese consumers routinely grabbed these little pick-me-up drinks for 1,000 yen a pop. "In a recession," says Kazuhisa Sugita, an analyst at Schroder Securities, "flunking down that kind of money on an energy drink is not so fashionable in these leaner times. What is more, Taisho faces intense competition from domestic rivals such as SS Pharmaceutical and Senryo Co., both of which have popular energy drinks of their own. But Taisho enjoys plenty of marketing clout, thanks to its 400 million yen annual advertising budget. Taisho's advertising efforts have helped create a broad demand for the health tonics that goes beyond the macho types. In Japan, mothers now pick up the drinks to help their children stay up late cramming for exams. Taisho will not say how much it relies on its energy-drink line. Mr. Sugita of Schroder estimates that half the company's earnings come from Lipovitan and related products. Taisho's sales for the half year through Sept. 30, 1992, were 104.93 billion yen, up 6.27 percent from a year before. Pretax profit was 28.2 billion yen, up 1.7 percent.

Merger Seen In Japanese Satellites

By Steven Brill International Herald Tribune TOKYO — Two of Japan's three private satellite companies plan to merge to avoid excess competition against each other at a time of falling demand for their services, company officials said Tuesday. Japan Communications Satellite Co. and Satellite Japan Corp. said they expected to agree on details of a merger this week. The impetus for the merger is coming from the four trading companies that control the two outfits. A spokesman at Japan Communications Satellite said Itochu Corp. and Mitsu & Co., which own 40 percent and 30 percent stakes respectively, had been negotiating a merger since last year with Nissho Iwai Corp. and Sumitomo Corp., which each own 33.5 percent of Satellite Japan. The spokesman said falling orders were behind the merger talks. Japan Communications Satellite operates two satellites, launched in 1989 and 1990, and says they are 40 percent under-utilized. The company leases space to three satellite television broadcasters and offers telecommunications services. The financial daily Nihon Keizai reported that the shareholders of the two companies would buy 50 percent stakes in each other's subsidiaries. It also said Hughes Communications Co. would sell its 30 percent stake in Japan Communications Satellite as part of the deal. Last month, Japan Satellite Broadcasting said its shareholders were making a 20 billion yen (\$1.6 billion) debt guarantee to the all-Japan company. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

Japan-EC Car Talks Advance

By Steven Brill International Herald Tribune TOKYO — Japan and the European Community agreed Tuesday to two days of talks ended Tuesday that the EC car market would contract in 1993, a forecast that implies Japan will reduce vehicle exports this year. But negotiators still differ over the magnitude of the decline and have yet to discuss the extent to which Japanese exports will be cut. "There is a recognition that 1993 will be a year of contraction of the EC market for autos and light commercial vehicles," Robert Verne, the EC negotiator, told reporters. "The fact that this trend is recognized is very important," he said, noting that the two sides remained far apart during their last meeting in Brussels in early February, when Tokyo still expected the market to grow, albeit slowly. He said the EC forecast the market would contract by between 4 percent and 6 percent, while Tokyo saw a smaller decline. Much of the discrepancy, he added, reflected differing views of the German market. Independent auto analysts have predicted that between 12 million and 12.5 million cars will be sold in the Community this year, down from 13.5 million last year. An agreed forecast between the Community and Japan is the first step in determining the level of Japanese vehicle exports to the Community based on a 1991 accord. That agreement, which controls Japanese exports during a seven-year transition from the start of the integrated EC market in 1993 to 1999, is meant to give the European car industry time to boost its competitiveness before facing the full force of more efficient Japanese producers. Last year, Japan exported 1.185 million vehicles to the Community and had an EC market share of about 11 percent. Japanese companies are free to set production levels at plants in the Community, although the level of production is a factor in setting the export quota. Mr. Verne said, Honda Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. last year joined Nissan Motor Co. in setting up manufacturing plants in Britain. Total production capacity of Japanese "transplants" in the Community will more than double in 1993 from last year's level of about 300,000 units, although actual output will rise more slowly, analysts say. For Japanese carmakers, hurting from a third straight year of declining domestic sales, a quota on exports to the United States, and the recent increase in the value of the yen, any diminution of exports to the European Community would be an added burden. But given the expansion of Japanese manufacturing capacity in the Community, and the ability of the Trade Ministry to shift the burden of lower exports onto companies that are suffering the least, the contraction of Japanese car exports to the Community is likely to be taken in stride. "It wouldn't have a major effect on the industry as a whole unless it meant a decline of more than 100,000 vehicles," said Peter Boardman, an analyst at UBS Philips & Drew. Mr. Verne said reaching an agreement this year was especially difficult because it is the first year that exports will be controlled for the Community as a whole as well as the formerly restricted markets of France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Britain.

Investor's Asia table with columns for Hong Kong Hang Seng, Singapore Straits Times, Tokyo Nikkei 225, and various regional indices with their respective values and percentage changes.

Wharf Signs Land Lease in China

HONG KONG — Wharf Holdings, a leading Hong Kong conglomerate, said Tuesday it had signed a major land lease in Wuhan, in China's central Hubei Province, to develop a prime site in the city. The site is located along the Yangtze River, close to government offices, a new passenger-ferry port and the second Yangtze bridge, the company said. Wharf signed another agreement last August with the city of Wuhan to develop a distribution center for container freight. The project aims to transform the land-locked industrial area of central China into an inland port. It includes plans to build modern container terminals and berths, and may eventually include a light-rail system. "We're there to help jump-start the Chinese economy," said Peter Woo, chairman of Wharf Holdings. "We're promoting key areas, not just snatching land. We have helped create a new profile for Wuhan." The latest land lease fits into that strategy, the company said. Wharf plans to develop the 17,000 square meter (20,250 square yard) site in phases over a number of years. The company expects to set aside some 190,000 square meters of commercial retail space, office and apartments upon completion. No figures for the cost of the project were released.

Very briefly: Western Mining Corp. said it had bought British Petroleum Co.'s 49 percent stake in the Olympic Dam mine for \$430 million, giving it full control and making it Australia's second-largest copper miner. NEC Corp. said it intended to cut production of one-megabit dynamic random-access memory chips and boost imports from Micron Technology Inc.; NEC said it would focus production on four-megabit DRAMs. India's rupee edged up to 32.10 to the dollar, from 32.94 on Friday, the first day of trading after the government floated the currency. Itochu Corp. said it would prune its bloated management by moving 300 of 1,150 managerial workers to sales jobs; Marubeni Corp. said it would move about 70 employees, or 10 percent of its managerial staff, to sales. Mitsui Trust & Banking Co., Japan's third-largest trust bank, said it was reducing its work force through attrition but has not announced targets. (Bloomberg, Reuters, AP, AFP)

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INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

March 2, 1993

Quotations supplied by IHS Global Vantage. Net asset value quotations are supplied by the Funds listed with the exception of some quotes based on lesser prices. The simplified symbols indicate frequency of quotations: (d) - daily; (w) - weekly; (b) - bi-monthly; (q) - quarterly; (m) - monthly.

Large table of International Funds with columns for fund names, symbols, and net asset values. Includes sections for Global Asset Management, Global Current Income, Global Growth, and Global Natural Resources.

POSTCARD

Córdoba and the Koran

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service
CÓRDOBA, Spain—Outside a whitewashed house on King Herod Street, barely 100 meters from the Great Mosque of Córdoba, nostalgia for the glory of Islamic Spain takes the simple form of a green-and-white Andalusian flag that carries the words in Arabic, "Allah is the Only Victor."

But inside the building, with its tearoom furnished with cushioned benches and Oriental rugs, its evocative Arabic music, its posters announcing, "In 1492 We Lost Everything" and, above all, its modest second-floor mosque, the search for roots goes farther.

Almost eight centuries after King Ferdinand III of Castile ended Arab rule of Córdoba, a few dozen Andalusian Muslims meet there regularly to read the Koran, to study history and to learn Arabic, convinced that Islam remains central to the identity of the region that they again call Al Andalus.

"For us, Islam is a daily presence," said Abderrahman Medina Molera, one of the leaders of the Islamic center who, like most Spanish converts, has adopted an Arabic first name. "It is written on our skin, the consequence of the Christian conquest of our land."

Grouped in communities in Granada, Seville, Almería, Jerez de la Frontera and Málaga as well as Córdoba, about 2,000 Spaniards have formally converted to Islam. Many of them are intellectuals and professionals who were previously drawn to the competing doctrines of Catholicism and Marxism. Yet, they belong to a far larger movement of Andalusians who are coming to terms with their Arab past.

"The majority of people here have Arab blood in them," said Mansur Castillo, who runs the Islamic center in Granada. "If they probe a bit, they'll find Islam inside them."

Last year, the fifth centennial of the fall of the last Arab stronghold, Granada, heightened this awareness, but it began in the late 1970s when, with the return of democracy in Spain, demands for greater autonomy by Catalonia and the Basque region proved contagious.

As Spain's poorest region, Andalusia was enormously dependent on the central government. But as Andalusians looked around, they began to take pride in how their architecture, music, accents, food and their history were different from those of other Spaniards.

It did not take them long to recognize the region's Arab legacy. The evidence was everywhere, from monuments like the Alhambra palace in Granada and the Great Mosque in Córdoba to the way that, just 20 years ago, Andalusian village women still covered their faces.

For many new Muslims, then, the path to Islam passed through their rediscovery. Tens of thousands of Spanish Muslims converted to Catholicism to avoid expulsion after 1492, and their Morisco descendants kept many Islamic customs, often without knowing their origin.

Medina, who studied theology and then embraced Marxism before becoming a Muslim, said that even today little is taught here about the scientific, medical and agricultural achievements of the Arab empire that had its capital in the Caliphate of Córdoba until 1236.

Nonetheless, Medina's argument that Islam is natural to Andalusia — the region had not been Christianized before the Arab occupation began in 711 — has enabled him to promote an Andalusian form of Islam without having to defend the way Islam is practiced in various Arab countries.

"There is no universal structure to Islam," he said. "We have nothing to do with the unrepresentative dictatorships that exist in some Arab states. We're more like the different currents that might exist in the United States. We are Muslims, but we live our reality. We are Western Muslims."

Rather than proselytizing, the Islamic center's approach has been simply to open its doors. And, in Córdoba at least, this has produced quick unexpected results. Every weekend and many evenings, the center is crowded with young people who come to drink tea and fruit juices and chat.

"We don't indoctrinate them or anything like that," Morilla said. "They come for the atmosphere. They're fed up with the same bars, the same lifestyle. Of course, if they ask us questions, we answer them with rigorous self-criticism. And some keep coming back. Some eventually convert."

The Kong and I: 60 Years With an Ape

By Aljean Harmetz
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES—Gorillas have a life expectancy of 30 years. King Kong was created out of wire, cloth, metal, rubber and stop-motion photography 60 years ago, and he may well turn out to be immortal.

At 85 and facing her own end within a decade or two, Fay Wray is aware that her immortality is inextricably linked with the huge ape who held her in his eight-foot hand when she was 25 years old.

"Kong has become a spiritual thing to many people, including me," Wray says. She leans forward, sharing a secret. "I've reached an age when I can say such things."

"King Kong" was released on March 2, 1933, so Wray has had six decades in which to muse about the huge ape from Skull Island who dies in a fall from the Empire State Building because his strength and power had been neutralized by love.

"Although he had tremendous strength and power to destroy, some kind of instinct made him appreciate what he saw as beautiful," she says. "Just before he dies, he reaches toward me but can't quite reach. Men are gratified by something Kong represented. The movie affects males of all ages. Recently, a 6-year-old boy said to me, 'I've been waiting to meet you for half my life.'"

Wray, who started in silent films as an extra at the age of 14, had become a star in 1928 as the bride in Erich von Stroheim's "Wedding March." In a career that spanned 77 movies, "The Wedding March," "The Mystery of the Wax Museum" (1933) and "Viva Villa!" (1934) with Wallace Beery were among the most prominent.

A talent for being happy is good armor to wear through 85 years. No matter how many times one meets Wray, the impression is always the same — of an inexhaustible wellspring of good humor and goodwill.

"Rodgers and Hammerstein got there first," says David Rintels, a screenwriter, as he tries to describe his mother-in-law. "Fay's younger than springtime. The 60 years since 'King Kong' haven't laid a glove on her."

Actually, says Wray, "When I turned 80, I thought, 'Can this be happening?' Now I think age amuses me. I feel a kind of exhilaration and freedom because no one can scold me for anything I do." Among the things she has done recently is buy a piano, although she does not play and has no intention of learning in any formal way. "It's something I've always longed for," she says. "I just want to play for myself, to play my feelings."

She lives in a high-rise condominium on what used to be the back lot of 20th Century Fox. The building is not as tall as the Empire State Building, but it is tall enough for her to stand on her balcony and look out at the place where she made "Shanghai Madness" with Spencer Tracy the same year she made "King Kong." Although it took 10 months to film "King Kong," Wray was in 11 movies released in 1933. After spending a few weeks clenching between the fingers of Kong's hand, she would leave to do another film while an 18-inch-tall Kong fought a tyrannosaurus, a pterodactyl and the natives of Skull Island in the endlessly tedious stop-motion photography. Then she would put on her blond wig — gorillas, like gentlemen, preferred blondes — and crawl back between Kong's fingers.

"There was only the 18-inch model, the hand and the huge head," says Wray. "I had to imagine all the rest. Rear projection, a new process at the time, was used for Kong and the dinosaur fight, and I was secured in the fork of a tree for 22 hours. That was the most arduous of all."

When Wray first saw "King Kong," the day the movie opened, "it seemed like a special film," she says, "but I felt like the girl did too much screaming, so it astonished me when the reviews were good. I didn't realize how important the movie made to people until 1946, when I was pushing a stroller — I retired and had two more children during my marriage to Bob Riskin — and a young man stared at me like I was an apparition. 'You were in 'King Kong,'" was all he could say."

Except for the good who die young, no one can get through life's journey without suitcases packed with a fair share of tragedy. As she recounts in her 1989 autobiography, Wray had an early first marriage to John Monk Saunders, a Rhodes scholar and Academy Award-winning screenwriter whom she describes as a drunkard and a drug addict who at one point disappeared with their young daughter. After their divorce, he committed suicide.

Her happy second marriage to another Academy Award-winning screenwriter, Robert Riskin, was destroyed in 1950, when he had a stroke that left him helpless until his death five years later. Now, once again, she is a widow. Sixteen years after Robert Riskin's death, she married Sandy



Fay Wray: "Kong has become a spiritual thing to many people, including me."

Rothenberg, who had been one of her husband's neurosurgeons.

"Sandy was 13 years younger, but he was always marvelous about it," says Wray. "He said, 'There are the aged and the ageless, and you are ageless.'"

Rothenberg died two years ago. Wray's autobiography, which she mischievously titled "On the Other Hand," was well reviewed. She has had a play or two produced in little theaters, and she spends some part of most days writing. She has always had both respect and passion for writing and writers — she had a love affair with the playwright Clifford Odets in the early 1940s — and, if she has a choice, she will be reincarnated as a real writer.

"I do believe we get born again immediately," she says. "It doesn't hurt anybody, and it makes it exciting to be 85 and looking forward to another incarnation."

She offers a plate of cookies. "Of course, I'm not in a hurry," she adds.

Aljean Harmetz, author of "Round Up the Usual Suspects: The Making of Casablanca," wrote this for The New York Times.



Out on a limb in "King Kong" in 1933.

PEOPLE

Tape Rattles London

As Nepal Greet Diana

Royal welcome? The Princess of Wales is in Kathmandu for a five-day official visit to Nepal. Greeted by Crown Prince Dipendra and Prime Minister Gijria Prasad Koirala in a brief ceremony at the airport, the princess is slated to dine with King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya at the royal palace Thursday. Protocol experts from the Foreign Ministry and the palace reportedly held protracted meetings on how to treat the visit following Diana's separation from Prince Charles. Meanwhile, back in London, Piers Merchant, a Conservative member of parliament, called for a government investigation of the new "Squidgy" tape extracts broadcast this week.

Dewi Sukarno, the former first lady of Indonesia, is a free woman, having served 36 days in Aspen, Colorado, for slashing the face of a fellow jet-setter, Victoria Osseman. Sukarno, 52, has 30 days to leave the United States because the conviction violated her immigration status.

Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan and Masako Owada are to become engaged formally April 12. The Imperial Household Agency said a messenger would be sent to Owada's home with ritual presents — two fresh sea bream, six bottles of sake and five rolls of silk material — in the traditional noshi-no-gi ceremony. Later this month, Owada will begin six-weeks' training to become the future empress.

Simon and Garfunkel made nostalgia pay with a rare reunion performance that raised \$1 million for the Los Angeles Children's Health Project, a traveling program for homeless youngsters. Neil Young and Steve Martin also performed.

The author Salman Rushdie has been granted an uncontested divorce by Britain's High Court, ending his marriage to the American writer Maria Wiggins. Rushdie, in hiding since Iran passed a death sentence on him in 1989, and Wiggins were married in 1988.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

Appears on Pages 6 & 14

WEATHER

Weather forecast for Thursday through Saturday. Includes maps for Europe, North America, Asia, and Africa, along with temperature and precipitation data for various regions.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution to the puzzle of March 2.

BOOKS

ICONS OF DEMOCRACY: American Leaders as Heroes, Aristocrats, Dissenters and Democrats. By Bruce Miroff. 422 pages. \$25. Basic Books.
Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani
CONSIDER the growing political influence of call-in radio and television shows, the Clinton administration's nervous reaction to the public outcry over the Zoe Baird nomination and the issue of homosexuals in the military, and Clinton's own recent efforts to communicate one on one with voters in a televised town meeting. All of these underscore perennial questions about the nature of representative democracy and the role of leaders in a democratic society.

BEST SELLERS

Table listing best-selling books from The New York Times, including titles like 'The Bridges of Madison County' and 'The General's Daughter'.



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